

MAPPS Reading Strategy

M – Mark your textbook. Using a pen or pencil, underline and annotate key ideas in the text. This will help you to process the material and aid you later in studying for exams. Generally, underline around 20%, probably more in a science book. Underlining too much or not enough will not be useful. Research shows that annotating is even more helpful than simply underlining. That’s why it’s more effective to use a pen than a highlighter.

A – What is the reading selection **about**? This is the topic. Using just a word or a phrase, can you express what the reading selection was about?

P – What is the **point** of the reading selection? This is different from the topic. Can you state the main idea of the reading selection in a complete sentence?

P – What **proof** does the author present to support his or her point?

S – Can you **summarize** the main idea and significant supporting details of the reading selection?